

Message Text

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ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 NEA-10 IO-15 ISO-00 AF-10 ARA-16 EUR-25

RSC-01 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-02

H-03 INR-10 INT-08 L-03 LAB-06 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03

AID-20 CIEP-02 SS-15 STR-08 TAR-02 TRSE-00 USIA-15

PRS-01 SPC-03 OMB-01 OIC-04 DRC-01 /239 W

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R 281430Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1865

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, GATT, IN, ID, CE, KS, AS

SUBJ: GATT BALANCE OF PAYMENTS (BOP) COMMITTEE - SEPT 27

REF: STATE 192262, GENEVA 5009

BEGIN SUMMARY: GATT BOP COMMITTEE ON SEPT 27 CON-
SIDERED FOUR REPORTS SUBMITTED UNDER ABBREVIATED
PROCEDURES ESTABLISHED BY L/3772/REV. 1. REPORTS
ACCEPTED FOR INDONESIA, SRI LANKA, AND KOREA, AND FULL
BOP CONSULTATIONS CALLED FOR INDIA. END SUMMARY

1. IN INFORMAL SESSION, AUSTRALIA REP ASKED FULL CON-
SULTATIONS WITH SRI LANKA, A MOVE WHICH LACKED SUPPORT
IN SPITE OF PRIVATE UK ATTEMPT PERSUADE EC TO FOLLOW.
THIS REQUEST FOR FULL CONSTULTATIONS ON A COUNTRY WITH
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SUCH WEAK RESERVES, COMBINED WITH AFTERTASTE OF ARGU-

MENT OVER GREECE AT LAST MEETING, PROMPTED EC REP (FRESI) TO CALL FOR END OF RULE WHICH ALLOWS A SINGLE MEMBER TO INVOKE THE FULL CONSULTATION PROCEDURE. US REP (SPRUCE) STATED THAT ISSUE HAD BEEN FULLY SETTLED IN 1972 AND SHOULD NOT BE RE-OPENED, BUT JOINED IN HOPE THAT RULE WOULD NOT HAVE TO BE ACTIVATED TOO FREQUENTLY. COMMITTEE THEN FORMALLY AGREED ACCEPT SRI LANKA REPORT AS FULFILLING ART. XVIII:12(B) REQUIREMENT, WITH PROSTATE CAVEAT THAT CHAIRMAN WOULD INFORM SRI LANKA REPS -- WHICH ABSENT FROM MEETING -- THAT "SEVERAL" COUNTRIES HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN AND INVITE THEM VOLUNTARILY SUBMIT MORE COMPLETE BOP MATERIAL. IF THIS ACCEPTED BY SRI LANKA, CHAIRMAN WILL ANNOUNCE AT GATT COUNCIL OCT 19. NOTE: AUSTRALIA REP LATER SAID PRIVATELY THEY RECOGNIZE WEAK RESERVE POSITION BUT BELIEVE THERE IS NEED FOR PUBLIC AIRING OF OVERALL SRI LANKA ECONOMIC POLICIES, WHICH THEY FIND ALARMING.

2. INDONESIA AND KOREA REPORTS ACCEPTED AS FULFILLING ART XVIII:12(B). US, FOLLOWED BY JAPAN AND CANADA, URGED KOREA TO BEGIN RELAXING RESTRICTIVE IMPORT SYSTEM. CHAIRMAN NOTED THAT THESE STATEMENTS WELCOME BUT WOULD NOT BE INCLUDED IN REPORT TO COUNCIL BECAUSE OF "MINI-BOP" PROCEDURES IN EFFECT AT MEETING. NOTE: US DEL PLANS REPEAT STATEMENT ON KOREA AT COUNCIL, OCT 19.

3. COMMITTEE AGREED HOLD FULL BOP CONSULTATIONS ON INDIA. IMF REP OFFERED UPDATE STUDIES ON INDIA, WHICH WOULD DELAY MEETING UNTIL SPRING 1974. US REP ASKED THAT OCT 31 DATE BE RETAINED, WHICH WAS AGREED, BUT REQUESTED INDIA SUPPLY MORE DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF NEW RESTRICTIVE MEASURES AND IMPROVED CAPSULE DESCRIPTION OF HOW OVERALL IMPORT SYSTEM WORKS. IMF REP THEN REVEALED JUST-COMPLETED IMF SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF RESTRICTIONS (MISSION WILL POUCH COPIES WASHDC, NEW DELHI), AND INDIAN REP STATED FULL DESCRIPTION OF SYSTEM IS AVAILABLE IN THREE VOLUMES: "IMPORT TRADE CONTROL HANDBOOK OF RULES AND PROCEDURES, 1973/74" AND VOLS I AND II OF "IMPORT CONTROL POLICY FOR YEAR APRIL 1973-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MARCH 1974", BOTH PUBLISHED BY INDIAN MINISTRY OF COMMERCE.

4. FUTURE WORK PROGRAM: CHAIRMAN MENTIONED POSSIBILITY OF HAVING "ONE OR TWO" ADDITIONAL REPORTS FROM UNNAMED COUNTRIES FOR EXAMINATION UNDER SAME ABBREVIATED "MINI-BOP" PROCEDURE AT TIME OF OCT 31 MEETING FOR FULL CONSULTATION WITH INDIA. MISSION WILL REPORT

NAMES OF COUNTRIES AND PERTINENT DOCUMENTS WHEN KNOWN.

5. COMMENT: JAPANESE REP STATED PRIVATELY THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTIONS CALL FOR FULL CONSULTATIONS FOR BOTH INDONESIA AND KOREA IF SUPPORT MATERIALIZED, AND THUS POSSIBILITY EXISTED FOR "CLEAN SWEEP" FOR FULL CONSULTATIONS ON ALL COUNTRIES SUBMITTED. HOWEVER, GIVEN MISGIVINGS OF SOME MEMBERS OVER RULE PERMITTING SINGLE COUNTRY TO INVOKE FULL BOP PROCEDURES, AND GIVEN NEED TO ENCOURAGE ADDITIONAL LDCS TO REPORT RESTRICTIONS, MISSION BELIEVES AT THIS STAGE US SHOULD CONTINUE POLICY OF REQUESTING FULL CONSULTATIONS ONLY IN CASES OF IMPORTANCE.

6. ACTION NEW DELHI: KENNON REQUESTED BRING DOCUMENTS MENTIONED IN PARA 3 ABOVE TO OCT 31 BOP MEETING. ASSUME WASHDC HAS COPIES. BASSIN

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Message Attributes

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